

Andrew Jackson to Charles Pendleton Tutt, June 30, 1827, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO COLONEL CHARLES P. TUTT.1

1 Copy.

Hermitage, June 30, 1827.

D'r Sir, yours of the 6th instant has Just reached me, and be assured, I feel very gratefull for the information it communicates.

Whilst the conduct of the sec of war,² which you detail, inspires only feelings of contempt for the man, I can assure you it would give me much pleasure (and I am sure it would my friends) to see all my accounts in the Indian, as well as every other department of the govt. exposed to public view, and fairly contrasted with Genl Brown accounts, or any other officer of the army or the goverment. I defy all the panders of power to injure me by exposing all and every transaction with Govt. during my whole life—whenever I had the disbursing of public mony it will be seen, that I used it with oeconomy and Justly.

2 James Barbour of Virginia.

My friends in next congress will, I trust, call for a full investigation of my accounts and others. This I expect the sec of war has heard of; and the inuendoes are intended for effect, perhaps, to keep my friends from making the call for those accounts. My friends have been prohibited from a view of my correspondence with the goverment, fearing, as it is alledged, that they would have a view of others, against which “(the Honble. Sec) *has insuperable objections*”.

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In my public acts, as well as private, I have always viewed honesty the best policy and pursued it. Therefore I fear nothing that can be extracted from my accounts. If mutilated, or forged, accounts are given out, such as was handed to Frank Johnston it is as easy to detect them as those given to Frank, in which there appears to have existed nearly seven thousand dollars of an Error. This was an intentional error, I have no doubt, and for the purpose which was attempted; but it has recoiled on their own heads. Rest assured I am prepared at all points, and my friends need have no fear of the result.

Mrs. J. begs me to say to you, that the use you have made of the pipe, meets her entire approbation, she unites with me in a tender of our best wishes to you, your lady, and family, and desires me to add that it would afford her great pleasure, as it would myself, to have you and your family as neighbours in this country. accept assurances of my great respect and Esteem